Steps have been taken to draw up the conceptual plans. Discussinos have been held with the State Governments, the ASI, the NCF and varius departments and agencies of the State Governments to arrive at a consensus on the development proposals and also to secure various approvals for land and other facilities.

IOC's plan on LPG for automobiles

1069. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IOC is devising plans to provide LPG for automobiles;

(b) if so, the other details of the proposals to open Gas Filling Stations in big cities; and

(c) the amount to be invested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has planned to set up LPG dispensing stations at 52 existing Retail Outlets in Metros/State Capitals and big cities in the initial phase. Estimated cost of setting up an LPG dispensing station at an existing Retail Outlet is about Rs. 45 lakhs.

Supply of CNG

1070. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times of 8th June, 2001 under the caption 'CNG is an unenviable fuel for transport; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the steps taken to remedy the situation of its smooth supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken following measures to remedy the situation of its smooth supply:—

* Orders has been placed for higher capacity compressors.
* The total CNG stations would be increased to 87 by September 2001 and to 120 by March 2002.
* The existing 39 daughter stations are proposed to be upgraded to daughter booster stations progressively by December, 2001.
* Action has been initiated to lay 23 kms. long gas pipeline connecting Dhaula Kuan with GT Karnal Road.
* In addition, 50 retail outlets have been identified for co-locating CNG dispensing facility.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas have taken a stand before the Hon'ble Supreme Court that unleaded and low benezene petrol and diesel with 0.05% max. sulphur content also satisfy the criteria of 'clean fuel' and as such vehicles may be allowed to run on these fuels in addition to CNG. These quality of fuels are already being supplied in Delhi.

Production of crude oil

1071. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of crude oil and natural gas produced in the country during the last three years, Company-wise both bublic and private;

(b) the details of Ninth Plan outlay for exploration;

(c) the estimated expenditure against the outlay so far;

(d) the enhanced reserve accretion targeted in Ninth Plan; and

(e) the achievement vis-a-vis the target and the reasons for shortfall?